IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1, 8, 13-16, 18, 20-22, and 31-32 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

monitoring a first network element for an indication of future need of communication resources in the first network element, wherein the indication comprises a coded value of a length of a data queue in the first network element, and wherein the length of the data queue is embedded in a data block from the first network element; and

allocating the communications resources for a transmission between the first network element and a second network element based on the indication.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the indication comprises information about a transmit buffer of the first network element.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the indication comprises information on additional resources needed by said first network element.

5-6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first network element is a mobile station and the second network element is a base station of a wireless communication network.

8. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a plurality of first stations;

a second station connected to the plurality of first stations through a plurality of communication links;

a controller configured to control ~~the~~ allocation of the communication resources among the communications links, the controller being separate and independent from the first stations,

said allocation being performed in accordance with information transmitted from each of the first stations, wherein the information from each of the first stations comprises a data block embedding a coded value of a length of a data queues in each of the first stations.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 8, wherein said controller is part of a base station.

10-12. (Cancelled).

13. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein each of said first stations transmits a transmission comprising a plurality of data blocks, and wherein the coded value of the length of a data queues of one of the first stations is provided in each of said data blocks in the transmission associated with said one first station~.

14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a controller configured to control allocation of communication resources for ~at least one~ a mobile station, wherein the allocation is based upon ~received~ queue length information received embedded in a data block from ~for~ the ~at least one~ mobile station~.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

~a data generator;~

a data queue, configured to ~receive~ store data packets for sending~from the data generator~;

an encoder configured to encode a code representative of a length of the data queue embedded in a data block; and

a transmitter configured to transmit said data packets and said data block with said code included therein as a field.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the monitoring comprises receiving data packets and wherein each of the data packets comprise the indication of the length of the data queue~.

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 26, wherein the decoder receives a plurality of data packets and each of said data packets comprises said queue length information~.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said data comprises a plurality of data packets, and wherein each of said data packets comprises said code.

20. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

decoder means for decoding a code representative of a length of a data queue in at least one a mobile station, wherein the length of the data queue is embedded in a data block from the mobile station; and

controller means for controlling allocation of communication resources,

wherein said decoder means provides queue length information for the at least one mobile station to the controller.

21. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

data generator means for generating data;

data queue means for receiving data packets from the data generator means;

encoder means for encoding a code representative of a length of the data queue means, wherein the encoder means embeds the length of the data queue in data block; and

a transmitter means for transmitting said data packets and said data block, wherein with said code is included therein as a field.

22. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

generating data;

encoding a code representative of a length of a data queue in a first network element, wherein the length of the data queue is embedded in a data block and the data queue is configured to receive the generated data block; and

transmitting data packets comprising a field comprising said code,

wherein said code is used when allocating communication resources for a transmission between the first network element and a second network element.

23. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the code further comprises information about a transmit buffer of the first network element.

24. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein in wherein the code further comprises information on additional resources needed by said first network element.

25. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 22, wherein the first network element is a mobile station and the second network element is a base station of a wireless communication network.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising:

a decoder configured to:

decode a code representative of the queue length information for each of the at least one mobile station, and

provide said queue length information for each of the at least one mobile station to the controller.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the code comprises information about a transmit buffer for each of the at least one mobile station.

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the code comprises information on the additional resources needed by each of the at least one mobile station.

29. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the code further comprises information about a transmit buffer for the apparatus.

30. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the code further comprises information on additional resources needed by said apparatus.

31. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components comprising:

monitoring a first network element for an indication of future need of communication resources in the first network element, wherein the indication comprises a coded value of a length of a data queue in the first network element, and wherein the length of the data queue is embedded in a data block from the first network element; and

allocating the communications resources for a transmission between the first network element and a second network element based on the indication.

32. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable components comprising:

generating data;

encoding a code representative of a length of a data queue in a first network element, wherein the data queue is configured to receive the generated data, and wherein the length of the data queue is embedded in a data block from the first network element; and

transmitting data packets comprising a field comprising said code,

wherein said code is used when allocating communication resources for a transmission between the first network element and a second network element.